

NEBRASKA

WEATHER & CROPS

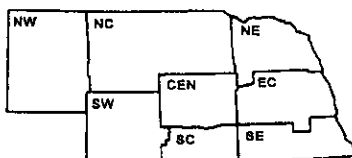
For Week Ending July 19, 1998

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National Agricultural Statistics Service
U S Department of Agriculture
and U S Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin
National Weather Service



NASS NEBRASKA
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WEATHER

Temperatures averaged three to six degrees above normals for the week across the entire State. Precipitation was light across the State with averages ranging from a trace to around three tenths of an inch

GENERAL

Hot, dry conditions pushed ahead wheat harvest last week, but stressed dryland crops with inadequate moisture according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Producers were running irrigation to keep up with the moisture demands of row crops. Temperatures in western areas reached into the triple digits stressing livestock and slowing gains. Producer activities included weed control, hay harvest, summer fallow work and livestock care.

CROPS

Winter wheat harvest was 73% complete, well ahead of 59% last year and 51% average. Nearly all of the crop (91%) was considered ripe also ahead of 84% last year and 82% average. Harvest was virtually complete in southern counties and the Panhandle was over one-third cut. Yields and test weights continued to be reported as above average.

Corn condition rated 1% very poor, 2% poor, 14% fair, 58% good, and 25% excellent. Dryland corn rated 78% in good or excellent condition and 86% of the irrigated corn rated in those categories. Silking was active on 67% of the acreage, well ahead

CROPS (Cont.)

of 23% last year and 29% average. With pollination at it's peak, producers were actively irrigating to limit crop stress.

Soybean condition rated 2% poor, 17% fair, 58% good, and 23% excellent. Blooming was active on 67% of the acreage, ahead of 47% last year and 37% average. Podding was occurring on 6% of the acreage, also ahead of 0% last year and 4% average.

Sorghum condition rated 2% poor, 30% fair, 56% good, and 12% excellent. Heading was just underway at 1%, compared to 0% last year and 3% average.

Dry bean condition rated 4% poor, 32% fair, 51% good and 13% excellent. Blooming was active on 14% of the acreage, behind 38% last year and 26% average.

Oats condition rated 3% very poor, 5% poor, 20% fair, 60% good, and 12% excellent. Oat harvest was 27% complete compared to 32% last year and 29% average.

Alfalfa condition rated 2% very poor, 4% poor, 20% fair, 60% good and 14% excellent. The second cutting activities moved to 64% complete, ahead of 56% last year and 55% average. However, producers in portions of the southwest were getting little, if any, second cutting. Potato leaf hopper counts were high with some producers spraying for control. Wild hay condition rated 1% very poor, 7% poor, 20% fair, 53% good, and 19% excellent.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition rated 2% very poor, 6% poor, 18% fair, 54% good, and 20% excellent. Supplemental feeding was occurring in portions of the southwest. Producers with livestock in feedlots were monitoring livestock for heat stress

CROP PROGRESS AS OF JULY 19, 1998	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Wheat Ripe	76	100	93	100	100	100	100	100	91	71	84	82
% Wheat Harvested	40	65	21	68	97	94	97	99	73	36	59	51
% Corn Silked	5	46	66	50	81	37	85	93	67	24	23	29
% Soybeans Blooming	n/a	39	51	33	81	35	79	80	67	25	47	37
% Soybeans Setting Pods	n/a	0	3	0	11	3	18	9	6	n/a	0	4
% Sorghum Headed	n/a	0	2	0	0	1	4	1	1	n/a	0	3
% Alfalfa Second Cutting	28	45	77	66	74	83	88	80	64	35	56	55
% Oats Harvested	5	21	19	35	47	19	68	45	27	7	32	29
% Dry Beans Blooming	4	5	6	10	n/a	34	n/a	n/a	14	2	38	26
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF JULY 17, 1998												
Days suitable	6.8	6.6	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.7	5.4	5.2	6.4	3.8	6.4	
Topsoil moisture - Very Short	0	0	0	0	0	18	1	4	3	1	11	
(Percent) - Short	24	31	21	31	29	33	18	15	25	14	39	
- Adequate	76	66	76	47	70	46	77	77	68	72	50	
- Surplus	0	3	3	22	1	3	4	4	4	13	0	
Subsoil moisture - Very Short	0	0	0	0	0	22	5	0	3	2	4	
(Percent) - Short	16	21	12	18	10	29	24	15	17	15	35	
- Adequate	84	76	86	60	89	48	71	84	77	78	58	
- Surplus	0	3	2	22	1	1	0	1	3	5	3	

n/a = not available

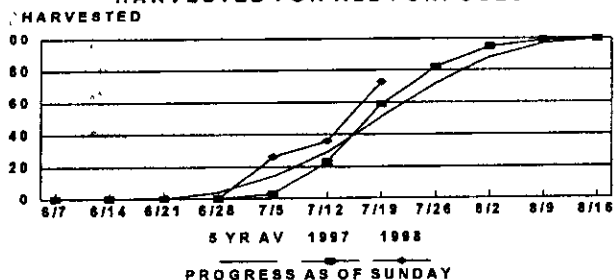
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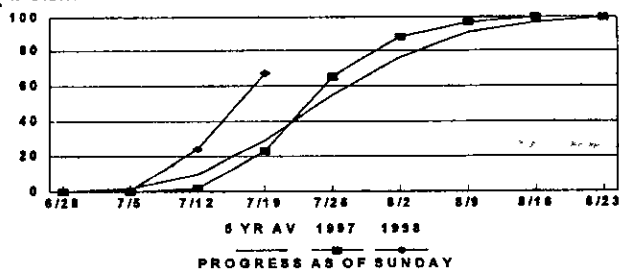
WINTER WHEAT

HARVESTED FOR ALL PURPOSES



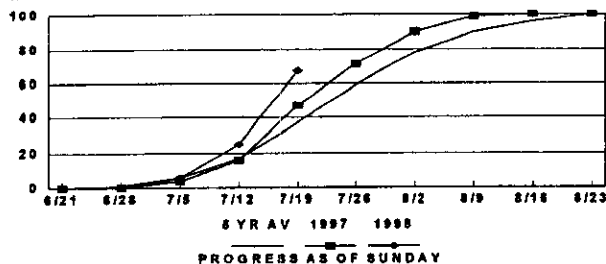
CORN SILKING

% SILKING

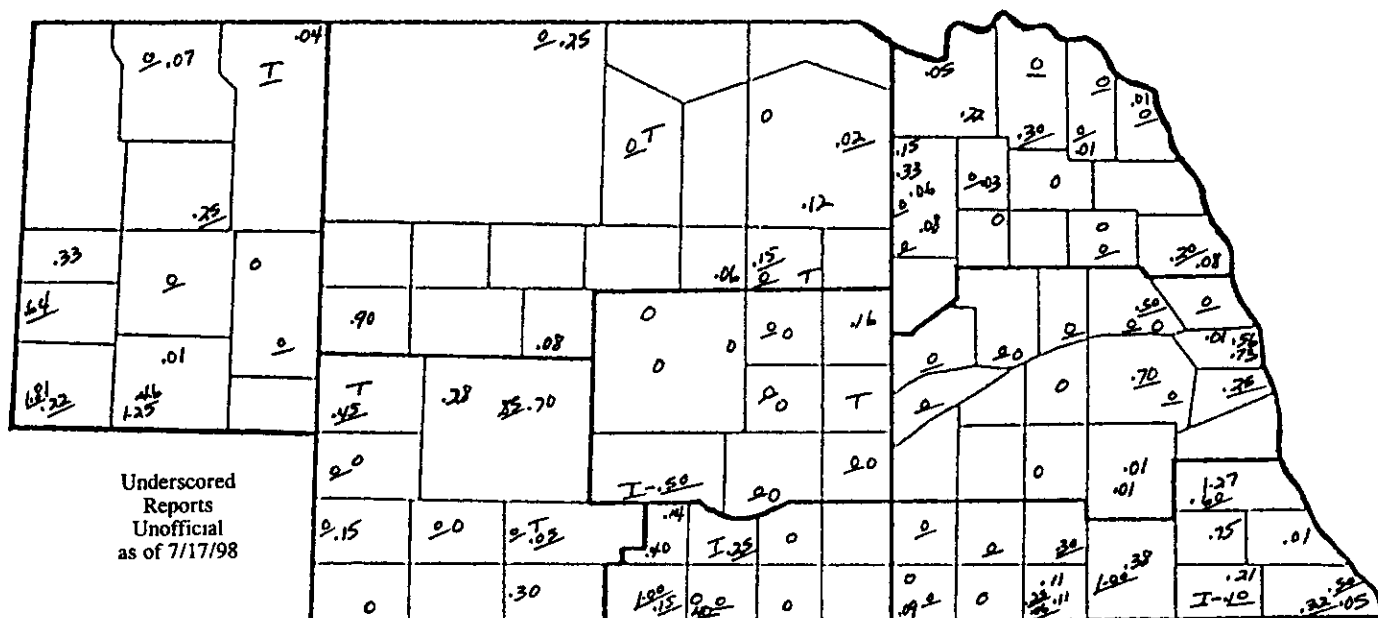


SOYBEANS BLOOMING

% BLOOMING



PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JULY 18, 1998



PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - JULY 18, 1998

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	31	.18	.08	.02	15	.16	.11	.27
Total since April 1	8.72	14.65	17.21	12.33	18.76	9.29	10.00	12.98
Normal since April 1	9.21	10.83	12.28	11.93	13.03	10.29	11.73	13.07
Total as % of normal	95%	135%	140%	103%	144%	90%	86%	99%

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JULY 18, 1998

WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JULY 18, 1936									
Station		Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches	Last Week	Current	Normal
		Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	109	57	81	---	.07	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	104	57	78	+3	33	157	1305	1260
	Sidney	100	59	78	---	46	167	1224	1285
NC	Valentine	105	61	81	+6	.25	---	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	---	172	1291	1388
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	---	195	1440	1492
NE	Norfolk	95	67	80	+4	0	---	---	---
	Sioux City	90	65	78	+2	.01	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	186	1516	1541
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	198	1482	1531
	West Point	---	---	---	---	---	190	1583	1632
CEN	Grand Island	100	65	82	+5	0	192	1581	1552
	Ord	98	68	83	---	0	193	1505	1538
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	---	191	1577	1543
EC	Lincoln	99	67	82	+4	01	199	1726	1697
	Omaha	93	66	80	+4	56	---	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	---	190	1585	1569
	Mead	---	---	---	---	---	190	1695	1658
SW	Imperial	102	61	80	---	.15	---	---	---
	North Platte	100	59	79	+5	.70	171	1449	1430
	Curtis	---	---	---	---	---	183	1535	1460
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	184	1581	1535
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	202	1792	1560
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	188	1659	1697
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	192	1628	1563

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max. temp. + min. temp. divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15.

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.